

Tribal TANF & Child Support Enforcement Flow Chart

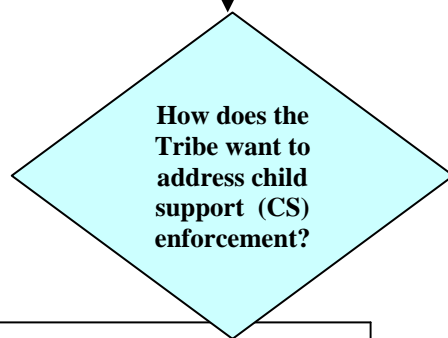
ESA works with Tribe to negotiate a Tribal TANF Agreement & a Tribal TANF Implementation Plan

Existing State-turned-Tribal TANF Cases

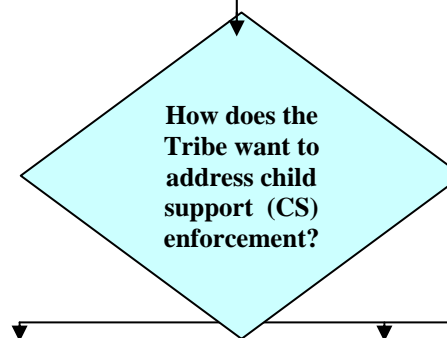
- ✓ CSO works with Tribe to identify families who now qualify for Tribal TANF
- ✓ CSO sends notice to the Custodial Parent, terminates state TANF, transfers the case to the tribe & sends list of cases terminated to DCS
- ✓ Tribe has Custodial Parent complete a TANF application packet & interviews them

New Tribal TANF Custodial Parent Applicants

- ✓ Custodial Parent completes a TANF application packet & Tribe usually interviews the Custodial Parent
- ✓ Need to inquire whether the CP has received public assistance or child support services from a state or tribal agency. If so, what services and for what period of time? Consider cross-referencing case with DCS
- ✓ Tribe opens a TANF case for the Custodial Parent



How does the Tribe want to address child support (CS) enforcement?



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Have DCS forward current child support payments to the Custodial Parent

- ✓ If the tribe does not negotiate a specific process to address CS, DCS will forward current child support directly to the Custodial Parent

Have DCS forward current child support payments to the Tribe

- ✓ Each Custodial Parent needs to sign a Tribal CS Assignment form
- ✓ Tribe sends Assignment forms to DCS
- ✓ Tribe sets up a bank account to receive CS payments and completes an Authorization for Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) form and sends it to DCS
- ✓ Tribe provides DCS with an email address for electronic notification of CS deposits

Request that DCS provide CS Services for the Tribe

- ✓ Custodial Parent completes a Child Support Referral for EACH associated Non-Custodial Parent
- ✓ Tribe sends referral(s) to DCS

Do not address child support enforcement

- ✓ Tribe will not be able to use CS to offset TANF payments
- ✓ TANF recipients will not have CS to maintain self sufficiency

Tribe pursues child support enforcement on their own

Develop CS Enforcement MOA, MOU or Cooperative Agreement with DCS

- ✓ An Agreement should address: paternity establishment, child support establishment and enforcement, modification of support, distribution of support, issues related to services the tribe wants DCS to perform, roles of the Tribe and State, how DCS and the Tribe will communicate critical information with each other, what information needs to be shared and within what timeframes, how DCS and the Tribe will address CS distribution issues, etc. As a resource, STRU developed a Model MOA for Child Support Services that is available at <http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/pdf/esa/dcs/tribal/tribetanf.pdf>.